

OKLAHOMA CITY TIMES

Published Every Evening Except Sunday By
THE OKLAHOMA PUBLISHING COMPANYR. E. STAFFORD, Editor
E. K. GAYLORD, General Manager
CHARLES W. BOGGS, Business ManagerEastern and Western Representatives:
THE R. KATZ SPECIAL ADVERTISING AGENCY,
15-17 Madison Square North, New York City;
624-925 Harris Trust Building, Chicago;
612 Waidhelm Bldg., Kansas City.Entered at the Oklahoma, Oklahoma, Postoffice as SECOND-
CLASS MAIL, under the act of March 3, 1879.
PHONE PBX-5.SUBSCRIPTION RATES
By mail, one year, \$1.50
By mail, one year, with The Sunday Oklahoman, \$2.00
Oklahoma City Times and Daily Oklahoman (thirteen
papers a week) delivered by carrier in Oklahoma
City and vicinity, per week, 15cYESTERDAY'S
CIRCULATION.....29,002
DAILY AVERAGE FOR MARCH.....26,328

PERFECTED MEXICAN DECEPTION.

RECENT EVENTS go to prove that the people of Mexico are trying to perfect themselves in one thing—the art of deception. They are untiring in their zeal and efforts to deceive, and in treachery they have no equals on the face of the earth. The report of the death of Francisco Villa is an illustration.

To the untutored Mexican mind, the simple report of Villa's death would be accepted by General Pershing and the officers in his command without question. It must have been astonishing to them when the army officers of the United States determined upon an investigation.

Treachery is such a large part of the Mexican nature that it has led the republic to the low estate in which it now finds itself. No foreigner can place any dependence in a Mexican, and no Mexican can depend upon another. There is deception and intrigue everywhere. Apparently they practice deception for the love of it and because it is a part of their nature. They tell lies when the truth would better suit their purposes.

It is no wonder the army officers sent on the expedition into Mexico have been many times all at sea. It was their first experience with a nation composed wholly of people who were strangers to the truth. In no other country could they have found treachery so universal and efforts at deception so numerous as they have been in Mexico. The condition of Mexico is indeed pitiable and it will never be any better until the United States extends to it a guiding hand.

On account of the shortage of dyestuffs the Easter egg may have to be taken plain this year.

GARRULOUS BLUEJAY IS HERE.

NOBODY will recognize him by his proper name, which is the cyanocitta cristata, but he has returned, a late harbinger of spring, and a sure sign that spring is here, no matter what the weather man may give us. He is better known as a bluejay, which is his alias.

The bluejay is rancorous and turbulent, asking no favors, giving no quarter, a self-sufficient swashbuckler, saucy and impudent in every act, every glance of his eye, and bold to a degree that borders upon foolhardiness. He robs the cornucopia when he requires heavy food and the cherry tree is his to right of discovery.

Even more serious accusations are made against the bluejay for it is said that he robs the nests of other birds, eating the eggs when they are fresh. He is not a songster, but he is cheerful and even in his impudence is graceful enough to challenge our admiration. Always he is a bright flash of color on a landscape that would otherwise be dull without him.

With his quarrelsomeness the bluejay keeps something going on all the time in the bird kingdom, or at least a semblance of something. He may do all the quarreling himself, but there is noise enough for a dozen.

One of the most surprising things in the world is that the Oklahoma bluejays, in their search for a good strong drink, have not been drifting altogether in Wine of Cardui.

JONAH COMES ON DECK AGAIN.

THREE STUDENTS from Union Theological seminary have been admitted to the ministry of the Presbyterian church in the Presbytery of New York, and there is trouble about it. The students refused to accept as true some of the statements of the old Bible, among them the story of Jonah and the whale.

In this way Jonah comes on deck again. Not the deck of the ship from which he was thrown before the whale swallowed him, but before the world. In some ways Jonah is like Hamlet's ghost. He will not down.

The higher critics have pointed out that the throat of a whale is not large enough to permit the passage of a man, and that therefore it could not have swallowed Jonah. Jonah will not stay down.

"The Lord who made the earth and sea and sky could make a fish large enough to swallow Jonah," said Dr. J. N. McCook, who recently held a series of meetings in Oklahoma City. He held that the story is not even improbable because nothing is impossible with the Lord.

SENATOR FALL CALLED DOWN.

GENERAL FUNSTON, of course, had nothing to say when Senator Fall of New Mexico, who has mining interests in old Mexico, heaped criticisms upon the Wilson administration on account of the president's Mexican policy. It was not General Funston's business to answer him, but as soon as he attacked the army he heard from the general.

Funston has never been accused of being incompetent, and he is credited with knowing something about the border, about Mexico and affairs connected therewith. Certainly he knows about military affairs on the border. He has answered Senator Fall with the assertions that Fall's statements about the negligence of the soldiers at the time of the attack on Columbus were flatly untrue. He points out other gross blunders made by the senator in his statements, and declares that the officer in command at Columbus has ground for a libel suit.

Senator Fall has all along claimed to be an authority on Mexican affairs and has disseminated about as much misinformation as any man in the country. He has persistently misrepresented the administration, but misrepresentation of an administration by opponents has become so common that no attention is paid to it. A president does not stoop very often to call to account those who make false statements. Making false statements about the army is different, however, and it is pleasing to know that they are refuted.

There are some large tasks in connection with the war, but one of the largest is that of the man whose duty it is to keep count of the ships that are torpedoed.

ATTACKING THE PRIMARY LAW.

PRIMARY ELECTION laws were enacted with a view of destroying the power of political bosses, and in some instances they have placed the boss at a disadvantage, but the discovery is being made that such laws are not without faults. In other words, the primary election law is not sufficient to foil the cunning of the political wire puller.

One particular instance wherein the primary accomplished all that was expected of it was in Wisconsin, where it enabled LaFollette to break the rule of the old bosses, but LaFollette became something of a boss himself, according to the accusations made against him, and later he was beaten at his own game.

Attacks are being made in many states on the primary law. It is said that it does not insure good government, which in itself is not a serious charge. Good government lies with the voters themselves. They make it good or bad, in proportion to the character of men they nominate and elect to office.

Primary elections add to the expense of politics and to the complexities that already exist, but the primary law doubtless is here to stay. Many states will hesitate a long time before going back to the old way of nominating candidates for office. In time the primary law may be more nearly perfected, and it may be kept just a little way ahead of the specialist who makes politics a business.

Speaking of the patience of Job, it was as nothing compared to that of the American army commanders and soldiers now in Mexico. At Parral they are blocked from pursuit of Villa by Mexican troops which they could doubtless brush out of the way with the greatest ease, yet they must hold back, standing silent and inert. Even when they are fired on they must not return the fire. It is by such patience that they are avoiding international complications.

TOO MANY LAWYERS IN TEXAS?

TEXAS has too many lawyers, and too much legislation, according to George W. Armstrong of Fort Worth, and he would limit by law the number who may practice in each judicial district. The suggestion is made that one lawyer for every 5,000 of population would be about right.

But what would become of the surplus? While it is true that under present conditions some of the attorneys are compelled to resort to ambulances and others have a practice that is obtained by means fully as reprehensible, there seems to be no way by which they can be ousted. To pass a law limiting them as this Texas man suggests would be unconstitutional and would not stand in a free country.

Neither can the lawyer be enjoined from practicing his profession, no matter how numerous lawyers may be. That would be too much like trying to beat him at his own game. He would immediately get out a writ of habeas corpus or a duces tecum, as aforesaid, and go right on taking money from his clients.

If there is an impression that lawyers live altogether on the misfortunes of others, it is very erroneous. It is the business of the lawyer to straighten out business tangles, to protect his clients in their rights and in that way to assist in the legitimate transaction of the world's affairs. Any way it may be looked at, he has a right to live.

Reports on the winter wheat crop indicate that it is about time for those European belligerents to stop their foolishness.

Summing It Up

By RICHARD S. GRAVES

According to Attorney James Lewis, the state of the tax forest also lies after him.

Villa has been killed often enough by the Mexicans, but if the American soldiers ever put the fix on him he will stay dead.

Dysentery is a scourge, but they are still plentiful enough to give some cheeks the semblance of blooming youth, it may have been noticed.

Some of us can look the federal tax death in the eye so fearfully that it will pass for real-bravery.

For the federal death, be it known, is only after whose incomes are large and plentiful.

A report from Washington says the senate is unanimously agreed. It is meant that there is no debate, that's not so, it's unanimous.

Prepare to see the city and the democratic party, be given a forward look almost equal to a shove. Taz-I-pohas has returned.

One of those confessing wives has been three days getting the almonds shelled and peeled. And that Dicky stood for it.

Twenty years ago or a little more the mayor was a man named Hutton. We wonder who had the button most of the time in those days.

Snap Shots

By JAY E. HOUSE

"He is so worthless," said Eps Wiley yesterday in referring to a young man who resides in his neighborhood, "that the people are demanding that he join the navy."

What has become of the old fashioned man who spread the news of a certain accident, occurring by saying, "That bee have swarmed?"

What people say behind your back is their real estimate of you.

When a man tells himself up a bit before starting down town his wife confesses that going to his office that he has an appointment to meet some other woman.

When a town man gets married that is all there is to it. But a farmer still is subject to being "showered" by the country cures.

If also is three generations from whist-slaves to the point at which a man learns what to eat and how to order it.

Every worthless, inefficient man we ever knew owned a fiddle and a shotgun.

There are a good many jobs, but positions are scarce.

When a man achieves wealth and prominence in a small town the people of his community start a story to the effect that he permitted his mother to die in the poorhouse.

The most difficult job is that of second husband in a community where the first husband was well liked and esteemed.

"You seem to be rather busy." "Yes, I'm writing a love letter. I've been working on it for more than an hour."

"Why take such pains?" "I want to feel sure that if this letter is ever read in court it won't make me look like a fool."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Upon the farmer's rolling acres, the bird men, husky harvest makers, now pushing the gleaming plows; all day above their tasks they're bending, and when the twilight is descending they milk three thousand cows.

They rise before the dawn is breaking, and give their sweat-stained mules a raking, with brush and currycomb; with pails of swill they go a-reeling, to feed the porkers, loudly squealing as they blow off the foam. They feed the calves and groom the chickens, and milk more cows to beat the dickens, before the rise of sun; and while the rest of us are snoozing, the glory of the morning losing, their day's work is begun. The eight hour day? Don't josh or mock them; such levity would pain and shock them; some eighteen hours they toil, between the hour of their up-getting and their retiring, tired and sweating, and caked with fertile soil.

We boost and praise the festive farmer, and say he is the honest charmer who keeps the nations fed; but, by the hoosters, bards and sages, of him who tills the land for wages, there's mighty little said.

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Echoes from Hotel Lobbies

The project to electrify the Healdton oil field and its railroads from a water-power site in the Arbuckle mountains, using water from the Washita river, may sound far-fetched just now," said J. W. Dammann of Ringling, who was at the Healdton hotel Tuesday, "but some of these days it will be a reality."

The constantly increasing price of coal and gas, the rise of gasoline and all refinery products and no prospect of their ever reaching again the low level they attained two years ago, means that in the near future some cheap substitute for fuel must be found. The only solution which the people of this day know is waterpower.

There are numerous sites in the Arbuckle mountains as well as in other portions of Oklahoma in which sufficient power could be developed to supply the entire state with electricity. The initial cost of erecting the dams and installing apparatus for manufacturing "juice" would be pretty heavy, it is true, yet ultimately the cost of production would be a minimum.

Oklahoma is not the only state faced by the problem of future electricity. It faces every state and section of the United States. Oklahoma, however, is one of the few that she has no large waterfalls within her borders, is blessed by numerous natural sites which with the aid of labor and money could be transformed within a short time into admirable electrification stations.

The example of Nelson Morris of Morris & Co., in dining 120 of his employees at the Hotel Lee-Huckins is typical of the newer generation of wealth," remarked A. V. Carlson of Chicago, traveling salesman for a rival meat concern of Morris & Co., who was staying at the Kingcade hotel Tuesday night. "While I am employed by another packing company, I cannot help but admire the democratic spirit displayed by Mr. Morris and his brother, each of whom is scarcely 25 years of age."

It used to be that the millionaire was the schoolboy in front of his mansion. Now, however, the millionaire mingles with the commonest of his laborers, each learns and benefits from the experience, and that very tangible hatred which has always existed between the man of the means and the man of wealth is rubbed away.

"We are often wont to regard the millionaire as a being different from ourselves, and it is human nature to hate that which is so much different from us without reason. I think that one of the main factors in disposing of that hatred between capital and labor which has existed for years in America will be the same democratic attitude displayed by Mr. Morris."

Labels still will learn that the millionaire is human, has human feelings, passions and impulses, is made of the same clay and governed by the same forces; and the millionaire, who, perhaps, has been too forgetful that other men were like himself, will come to realize the common brotherhood with the man who works for him."

Bits of By Play

By LURE MCLUKE

Why? Oh, why should the spirit of mortal be proud? The sky overhead showed never a cloud. He does his new suit and goes out for an hour. And cometh back, packed to the skin by a shower.

Our Joe Miller Contest. Doc Thompson, of Medicine Hat says that the oldest joke is the one about the tramp stone cutter. He was given a job to chisel an inscription on a slab in a graveyard. Following the name he was told to chisel the line, "LORD, SHE WAS THIN."

Mooney. This world ain't right," said Howder. "I'd swap my five dollars for a hope. We'll use less talcum powder. And use a lot more soap."

Things are a-slow," said Meaching. "To do lots less of preaching. And practice what we preach."—Wilmington Journal-Republican.

Dear Luke: If you want to C. A. Berger come up to Waukegan, Wis. He is running for city treasurer.—L. M. Poon.

Dear Luke: Can't Pansy Flowers get into the club conservatory? He is a policeman in Portsmouth, Ohio.—Reader.

Any Cincinnati man who happens to be thirsty on Sunday can go across the river to Covington, Ky., and see Charles Tutenbier.

Quick, Doc, the Bandages. Port Fire Cutt is organist of the Presbyterian church at Elora, Ohio.

Things to Worry About. All substances are radioactive.

Names Is Names. Mexa Buck lives at Ripley, W. Va.

Our Daily Special. Many Are Called, But Few Know When To Lay Down.

Luke McLuke Says. A woman's idea of a bargain is an article that looks as if it was worth thirty cents, but is marked "38 cents, reduced from 42."

When the children get to fussing mother will say, "I don't know where they got their selfish disposition from. I know they didn't get it from my side of the family." And then father will get mad and go out and slam the door.

Some of the good men who talk to the Lord every hour consider themselves too good to talk to their neighbors.

A man can be so sorry that he will let his wife support him. But this doesn't keep him from knocking down the block-effender every time he gets a chance.

I don't hurt any to believe that some day you will discover the fountain of youth or locate the pot of gold at the foot of the rainbow. But don't get the idea into your head that your friends are going to take care of you when you are down and out.

After looking at some people you get the idea that the war in Europe has made soap a costly article. But it hasn't. A man would rather get an ankle-

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Twenty Years Ago

(From The Times Files.)

Prof. W. H. Rust came in from Yukon today. He has just closed a successful school.

The river has been rising rapidly since last evening, the rise last night being nearly five feet and the volume of water up to 3 o'clock was steadily increasing.

S. E. Maxey of Choctaw City, ex-county commissioner, was in the city yesterday and reports the fruit not killed in that neighborhood.

Bill Raulder, the outlaw, was sentenced to ten years in the pen Saturday by Judge McAtee.

The Baptist ladies will celebrate the twenty-second with a fair and supper at 119 Main street.

The park gate is kept locked these days but the locking of the gate does not keep out stock nor reserve the park for the use and benefit of the city. Horses are pastured there and people excluded. Would it not be better to exclude horses and admit people.

Miss Jennie Hatten went to Edmond yesterday to meet the faculty of the normal and go with them today to Guthrie to the Masonic convocation. Miss Hatten will be the pianist at a musical program there this evening.

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PETEY DINK—Petey Never Will Grow Up to the Old Man

By C. A. VOIGHT

